

HOUSE BILL No. 1501

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 35-47-2.

Synopsis: Handgun safety. Requires a law enforcement agency that accepts an application for a handgun license to provide, before the application is forwarded to the superintendent, the applicant with information concerning handgun safety provided to the law enforcement agency by the superintendent of the state police department.

Effective: July 1, 1999.

Smith V

January 19, 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development.

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First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1998 General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1501

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 35-47-2-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 3. (a) A person desiring
3 a license to carry a handgun shall apply:

4 (1) to the chief of police or corresponding law enforcement officer
5 of the municipality in which he resides;

6 (2) if that municipality has no such officer, or if the applicant does
7 not reside in a municipality, to the sheriff of the county in which
8 he resides after he has obtained an application form prescribed by
9 the superintendent; or

10 (3) if he is a resident of another state and has a regular place of
11 business or employment in Indiana, to the sheriff of the county in
12 which he has a regular place of business or employment.

13 (b) The law enforcement agency which accepts an application for a
14 handgun license shall collect a ten dollar (\$10) application fee, five
15 dollars (\$5) of which shall be refunded if the license is not issued.
16 Except as provided in subsection ~~(g)~~, **(h)**, the fee shall be:

17 (1) deposited into the law enforcement agency's firearms training



1 fund or other appropriate training activities fund; and

2 (2) used by the agency for the purpose of:

3 (A) training law enforcement officers in the proper use of
4 firearms or other law enforcement duties; or

5 (B) purchasing for the law enforcement officers employed by
6 the law enforcement agency firearms, or firearm related
7 equipment, or both.

8 The state board of accounts shall establish rules for the proper
9 accounting and expenditure of funds collected under this subsection.

10 **(c) The law enforcement agency that accepts an application for**
11 **a handgun license shall provide the applicant with information**
12 **concerning handgun safety:**

13 **(1) provided to the law enforcement agency by the**
14 **superintendent; and**

15 **(2) before the application is forwarded to the superintendent**
16 **under subsection (d).**

17 ~~(c)~~ (d) The officer to whom the application is made shall ascertain
18 concerning the applicant his name, full address, length of residence in
19 the community, whether his residence is located within the limits of
20 any city or town, occupation, place of business or employment,
21 criminal record, if any, and convictions (minor traffic offenses
22 excepted), age, race, sex, nationality, date of birth, citizenship, height,
23 weight, build, color of hair, color of eyes, scars and marks, whether the
24 applicant has previously held an Indiana license to carry a handgun
25 and, if so, the serial number of the license and year issued, whether his
26 license has ever been suspended or revoked, and if so, the year and
27 reason for the suspension or revocation, and the applicant's reason for
28 desiring a license. The officer to whom the application is made shall
29 conduct an investigation into the applicant's official records and verify
30 thereby the applicant's character and reputation, and shall in addition
31 verify for accuracy the information contained in the application, and
32 shall forward this information together with his recommendation for
33 approval or disapproval and one (1) set of legible and classifiable
34 fingerprints of the applicant to the superintendent.

35 ~~(d)~~ (e) The superintendent may make whatever further investigation
36 he deems necessary. Whenever disapproval is recommended, the
37 officer to whom the application is made shall provide the
38 superintendent and the applicant with his complete and specific
39 reasons, in writing, for the recommendation of disapproval.

40 ~~(e)~~ (f) If it appears to the superintendent that the applicant has a
41 proper reason for carrying a handgun and is of good character and
42 reputation and a proper person to be so licensed, he shall issue to the

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applicant a qualified or an unlimited license to carry any handgun lawfully possessed by the applicant. The original license shall be delivered to the licensee. A copy shall be delivered to the officer to whom the application for license was made. A copy shall be retained by the superintendent for at least four (4) years. This license shall be valid for a period of four (4) years from the date of issue. The license of police officers, sheriffs or their deputies, and law enforcement officers of the United States government who have been honorably retired by a lawfully created pension board or its equivalent after twenty (20) or more years of service, shall be valid for the life of such individuals. However, such lifetime licenses are automatically revoked if the license holder does not remain a proper person.

~~(f)~~ (g) A license to carry a handgun shall not be issued to any person who:

- (1) has been convicted of a felony;
- (2) is under eighteen (18) years of age;
- (3) is under twenty-three (23) years of age if the person has been adjudicated a delinquent child for an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult; or
- (4) has been arrested for a Class A or Class B felony, or any other felony that was committed while armed with a deadly weapon or that involved the use of violence, if a court has found probable cause to believe that the person committed the offense charged.

In the case of an arrest under subdivision (4), a license to carry a handgun may be issued to a person who has been acquitted of the specific offense charged or if the charges for the specific offense are dismissed. The superintendent shall prescribe all forms to be used in connection with the administration of this chapter.

~~(g)~~ (h) If the law enforcement agency that charges a fee under subsection (b) is a city or town law enforcement agency, the fee shall be deposited in the law enforcement continuing education fund established under IC 5-2-8-2.

SECTION 2. IC 35-47-2-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 5. (a) The superintendent may suspend or revoke any license issued under this chapter if he has reasonable grounds to believe that the person's license should be suspended or revoked.

(b) Documented evidence that a person is not a "proper person" to be licensed as defined by IC 35-47-1-7, or is prohibited under section ~~3(f)(4)~~ 3(g)(4) of this chapter from being issued a license, shall be grounds for immediate suspension or revocation of a license previously issued under this chapter. However, if a license is suspended or



1 revoked based solely on an arrest under section ~~3(f)(4)~~ **3(g)(4)** of this
2 chapter, the license shall be reinstated upon the acquittal of the
3 defendant in that case or upon the dismissal of the charges for the
4 specific offense.

5 (c) A person who fails to promptly return his license after written
6 notice of suspension or revocation commits a Class A misdemeanor.
7 The observation of a handgun license in the possession of a person
8 whose license has been suspended or revoked constitutes a sufficient
9 basis for the arrest of that person for violation of this subsection.

10 (d) The superintendent shall establish rules under IC 4-22-2
11 concerning the procedure for suspending or revoking a person's license.

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